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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,737	03/04/2002	Jukka Kela	042933/299635	2202

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EXAMINER

DUONG, THOI V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,737

Applicant(s)

KELA ET AL.

Examiner

Thoi V. Duong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19-40 ~~is/are~~ pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19,22,25,28,31 and 32 ~~is/are~~ rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 20,21,23,24,26,27,29,30 and 33-40 ~~is/are~~ objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 04, 2006 has been entered.

Accordingly, claims 19, 21, 31 and 32 were amended, and claims 1-18 were cancelled. Currently, claims 19-40 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 19, 31 and 32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 33 is objected to because of the following informalities: in lines 2-5, the recitation "the liquid crystal is attached to a first housing part with the adhesive member, and the second housing part and the elastic member surrounds an inner periphery of the second housing part with the elastic member applying a retaining force on a top surface of the liquid crystal display" is unclear. It should be "the liquid crystal is attached to the first housing part with the adhesive member, and the elastic member surrounds an inner periphery of the second housing part and applies a retaining force on a top surface of the liquid crystal display." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 19, 22, 25, 28, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uehara et al. (Uehara, USPN 5,659,376) in view of Nakao (USPN 6,352,322 B1).

Re claim 19, as shown in Fig. 23, Uehara discloses a display arrangement including a liquid crystal display 306 comprising a protective window 303 (display plate) which covers the liquid crystal display 306 to provide protection thereof and the arrangement holding the liquid crystal display 306 in a position relative to a housing including first housing part (302, 302b, 305, 312) comprising:

an elastic part 321 contacting the first housing part 302 (at right of Fig. 23) and including a portion (upper portion) which contacts an under surface of the protective window 303 to seal a space between a top of the liquid crystal display 306 and the under surface (col. 15, lines 13-19 and 53-57), a cavity located between a periphery of the liquid crystal display 306 and the first housing part 302b, and an adhesive member 307 applied along a periphery of a bottom surface of the liquid crystal display which attaches the liquid crystal display 306 to the housing (part 305) (col. 4, lines 55-57); and

wherein the first housing part (302, 302b, 305, 312) covers the periphery and the bottom surface of the liquid crystal display.

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Re claim 31, as shown in Fig. 23, Uehara discloses a method for arranging a liquid crystal display 306 including a protective window 303 which covers the liquid crystal display 306 to provide protection thereof in relation to a housing including first housing part (302, 302b, 305, 312) in an electronic equipment comprising:

applying an adhesive member 307 along a periphery of a bottom surface of the liquid crystal display 306 and attaching the liquid crystal display with the adhesive member 307 to the first housing part 305 (col. 4, lines 55-57), and

applying an elastic member 321 on a top surface of the liquid crystal display 306, the elastic member 321 including a portion (upper portion) which contacts an under surface of the protective window 303 to seal a space between a top of the liquid crystal display 306 and the under surface (col. 15, lines 13-19 and 53-57), wherein the elastic member establishes a pressure on the top surface of the liquid crystal display 306 which retains the relative position between the liquid crystal display 306 and the housing part (col. 15, lines 36-41 and 48-52).

Re claim 32, as shown in Fig. 23, Uehara discloses a method for establishing a flexible display arrangement, comprising:

attaching a liquid crystal display 306, including a protective window 303 which covers the liquid crystal display to provide protection thereof, to a housing including first housing part (302, 302b, 305, 312) wherein the first housing part covers a periphery of the liquid crystal display and a bottom surface of the liquid crystal display 306 and attaching the liquid crystal display 306 with an adhesive member 307 located along a periphery of the bottom surface of the liquid crystal display to the first housing part 305

(col. 4, lines 55-57) with the housing including a cavity located between side walls of the housing (302b) and a side periphery of the liquid crystal display 306; and

applying an elastic member 321 between a top surface of the liquid crystal display 306 and the protective window 303, the elastic member 321 contacting the first housing part 302 (at right of Fig. 23) and including a portion (upper portion) which contacts an under surface of the protective window 303 to seal a space between a top of the liquid crystal display and the under surface (col. 15, lines 13-19 and 53-57).

Uehara discloses a display arrangement that is basically the same as that recited in claims 19, 31 and 32 except for a second housing part covering a periphery of a top surface of the liquid crystal display.

As shown in Figs. 24-26, Nakao discloses a display arrangement comprising an ornamental plate 55 (as Applicant's second housing part), a windshield 54 (as Applicant's protective window) for covering a display window 53 to protect a liquid crystal display 52 (col. 3, lines 6-11), and a housing 51 (as Applicant's first housing part) where the display window 53 is formed in front of the liquid crystal display 52, wherein the ornamental plate 55 is mounted on top of the windshield 54 on the housing 51 via a double-sided adhesive tape 98 and covers a periphery of a top surface of the liquid crystal display (col. 20, line 10 through col. 21, line 5).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the display arrangement of Uehara with the teaching of Nakao by employing a second housing part in order to support the

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protective window arranged around the display window and improve the quality of appearance of the liquid crystal display (col. 3, lines 49-54 and col. 4, lines 26-31).

Accordingly, with the modification, it is also obvious that the elastic part is located between the liquid crystal display and the second housing part.

Re claim 22, as shown in Fig. 23, the display arrangement of Uehara further comprises a side connector 309 to a printed circuit board 310 located on a side of the liquid crystal display 306.

Re claims 25 and 28, as shown in Fig. 24, the display arrangement of Nakao is applicable to a communication device (col. 1, lines 5-22).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 33-40 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed. Specifically,

Re claims 20 and 33, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a display arrangement comprising an elastic part located between the liquid crystal display and the second housing part, contacting the first housing part and including a portion which contacts an under surface of the protective window to seal a space between a top of the liquid crystal display and the

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under surface, wherein the elastic part surrounds an inner periphery of the second housing part.

Re claims 34, 38 and 39, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a display arrangement comprising an elastic part located between the liquid crystal display and the second housing part, contacting the first housing part and including a portion which contacts an under surface of the protective window to seal a space between a top of the liquid crystal display and the under surface, wherein the elastic member contacts the second housing part.

The most relevant references, USPN 5,659,376 to Uehara et al. (Uehara) and USPN 6,352,322 B1 to Nakao, fail to disclose or suggest the elastic part surrounding an inner periphery of the second housing part or contacting the second housing part. As shown in Fig. 23, Uehara only discloses an elastic member 321 formed between a top surface of the liquid crystal display 306 and the protective window 303, wherein the elastic member 321 contacts the first housing part 302 and including a portion (upper portion) which contacts an under surface of the protective window 303 to seal a space between a top of the liquid crystal display and the under surface. Meanwhile, as shown in Fig. 25, Nakao discloses an ornamental plate 55 (as a second housing part) formed on top of the windshield 54 (as a protective window) and a rib-like protuberance 97 surrounding the display window 53; however, the rib-like protuberance 97, which has a similar function with the elastic member of Uehara (col. 20, lines 43-50), does not surround an inner periphery of the second housing part 55 and does not contact the second housing part 55 as shown in Fig. 26.

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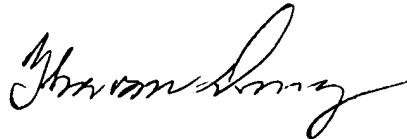
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim, can be reached at (571) 272-2293.

Thoi V. Duong

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thoi V. Duong', written in a cursive style.

03/16/2006